A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF ROVE BEETLE FROM CALIFORNIA (COLEOPTERA: STAPHYLINIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

A new genus and species (*Xenicopoda helenae*) of the subfamily Omaliinae and tribe Anthophagini, is described from a unique specimen from Mt. Wilson, California.

Xenicopoda Moore & Legner, NEW GENUS

Type species: *Xenicopoda helenae* Moore & Legner, NEW SPECIES

Head as wide as long, somewhat produced in front; clypeo-labral suture impressed; eyes prominent; tempora not as prominent as eyes, half as long as eyes, rounded to a broad neck; nuchal constriction present but not deeply impressed; frontal calluses diffuse; anterior tentorial pits deep. Antennae filiform, all segments longer than wide, first 4 segments glabrous except for a few scattered setae. Labrum almost as long as wide, outer apical angles broadly rounded, apex very shallowly emarginate. Maxillary palpi 4-segmented; first segment small, second and third about equal in size and shape, fourth about as long as wide and about one-half longer than third, gradually narrowed to the bluntly pointed apex. Labial palpi 3-segmented; first segment slightly longer than wide, cylindrical; second narrower and slightly shorter than first, cylindrical; third narrower and longer than second, almost twice as long as wide, cylindrical. Mentum trapezoidal. Gular sutures distinctly separate, most approximate in the middle, widely divergent before and behind.

Pronotum subquadrate, as wide as long, sides entire, margins reflexed in basal half; with a small, very faint impression centrally in basal fourth. Elytra covering first abdominal segment. Prosternum short, its process obtusely pointed, extending a short distance between the coxae. Mesosternum not longitudinally carinate, its process pointed, extending about a third of the distance between the coxae. Metasternal process pointed, extending about a third of the distance between the coxae, not meeting the mesosternal process.

Femora moderately stout, not arcuate. Anterior tibiae stout, with a few scattered prominent spines on the outer face anteriorly. Anterior tarsi broad; first 4 segments bilobed, densely pubescent beneath; first segment almost as long as next 3 together; fifth segment strongly arcuate, longer than the first 4 together. Inner anterior unguis strongly arcuate, very large, almost as long as the tarsi, more than twice as wide and twice

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[2] Coleopt. Bull. 20:47-56.

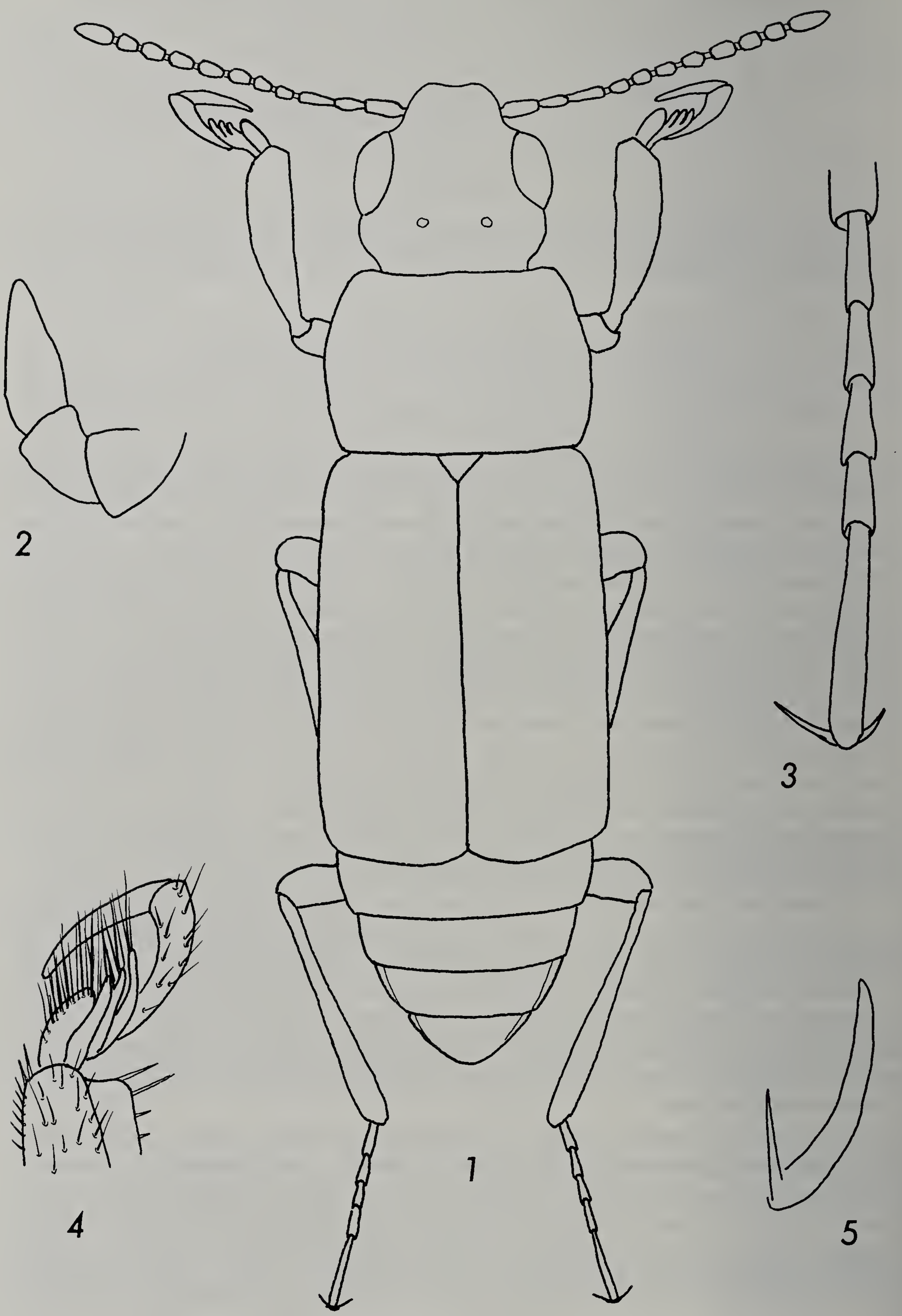

Fig. 1-5: *Xenicopoda helenae* n. sp. 1. Dorsal view. 2. Apical segments of maxillary palpus. 3. Posterior tarsus. 4. Anterior tarsus. 5. Anterior unguis.

as long as outer unguis. Middle and posterior tibiae slender, without spines on the outer edge, pubescent. Posterior tarsi two-thirds as long as tibiae; 5-segmented, first 4 segments subequal, last segment almost as long as preceding 3 together.

First 3 visible abdominal segments without paratergites, next 2 segments with very narrow traces of paratergites.

This genus belongs in the tribe Anthophagini of the subfamily Omaliinae. In Moore's 1966 key to the genera of the Nearctic Anthophagini[2] it will go to couplet 20 where it may be separated by the very large inner anterior ungues. It is readily distinguished from all members of that tribe, and probably from all other Omaliinae, by the unmargined abdominal segments, the structure of the anterior tarsi and the asymmetrical anterior ungues.

The single species described below superficially resembles some members of the genus *Eusphalerum* (tribe Eusphalerini) from which it differs in the structure of the posterior tarsi, the presence of a nuchal constriction, the spinous anterior tibiae and the characters mentioned above.

Xenicopoda helenae Moore & Legner, NEW SPECIES

Color largely rufo-testaceous except head and abdomen which are piceorufous with sides of abdomen paler, and disc of pronotum and abdomen infumate. Head as wide as long, broadly shallowly impressed in front around tentorial pits with small slight tumidity between pits; microreticulate throughout, area behind nuchal constriction transversely strigulo-reticulate; very finely and sparsely punctured throughout, beneath micro-reticulate and sparsely finely punctured. Antennae as long as head and pronotum, first segment about twice as long as wide, second about as wide but noticeably shorter than first, third as long and as wide as first, fourth through tenth increasing gradually in width but very little in length so tenth only slightly longer than wide, eleventh as wide as tenth and about twice as long.

Pronotum as wide as long, widest near middle, sides evenly arcuate, base and apex nearly straight, angles very narrowly rounded, surface micro-reticulate throughout, somewhat more coarsely and densely punctured than head, punctures separated by about their diameters. Elytra conjointly twice as long as wide, slightly wider apically, sides straight from broadly rounded humeri to rounded outer apical angles, thence slightly arcuate to rounded inner apical angles; surface sculptured and punctured much like pronotum.

Abdomen finely reticulate, very finely, somewhat densely punctured above, more sparsely so beneath. Second visible tergite with a pair of small pale, very densely reticulate spots centerally.

Length, 2.2 mm.

This species is named in honor of Helen Moore.

Holotype: Sex unknown. "Mt. Wilson, Calif., 3-6-46, G. P. Mackenzie." [California Academy of Sciences].